

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 18 and 37 are amended. Claims 17-38 are pending in the case. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

A. Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to for failing to show every feature of the claimed invention. The Applicant respectfully traverses the objection to the drawings.

In order to expedite advancement of this application, the Applicant has amended the Drawings to add references denoting a first, second, third, fourth, fifth and a sixth width between poles and is submitting replacement Fig. 3 on a separate sheet attached herewith. The replacement Fig. 3 clarifies the Specification and Claims without adding new matter.

Therefore, the Applicant requests withdrawal of the pending rejection.

B. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 17-38 were rejected as being anticipated by Osada et al. (US Pat. No. 4,851,758). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant's claimed inventions set forth a plurality of poles on a rotor defining gaps of different widths. Claims 31-33 also set forth that the plurality of poles are asymmetrically positioned.

With respect to independent claims 17, 34 and 38, Osada's teachings are in sharp contrast to those of the claimed invention. Osada merely teaches a 2-pole rotor. For example, Osada discloses that "the rotor core 25 (that is, the rotor 22) has the salient poles 25-a and 25-b having the same number of poles as the number of poles of the main generating winding 23". (Col. 3, lines 23-26). Further, Osada discloses that the main generating winding 23 is a "2-pole main generating winding 23". (col. 2, line 68 and col. 3, line 42). Further yet, Osada discloses "the rotor 22 used in the embodiment shown in the figure has salient poles 25-a and 25-b having the same number of poles (2 poles in the figure) as that of the main generating winding 23 . . . to

produce the above mentioned 2-pole magnetic field." (col. 3, lines 47-52). Osada clearly discloses that the rotor 22 is a 2-pole rotor comprising a first pole 25-a and a second pole 25-b. Further, Fig. 2 clearly shows two poles symmetrical positioned on the rotor.

Thus, the gaps in Osada are not defined by poles. For example, the four small gaps are formed recesses in the rotor for accommodating auxiliary field windings 26-a. Therefore, Osada fails to disclose or suggest the claimed structure, and independent claims 17, 34 and 38 and their dependent claims are patentably distinct from Osada. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal from the pending rejection.

With respect to independent claims 31 and 32, Osada fails to disclose or suggest at least a plurality of poles being asymmetrically positioned on the rotor as discussed above. Furthermore, because Osada explicitly teaches a rotor assembly 24 having 2 poles equally spaced apart and symmetrically positioned, Osada teaches away from the claimed invention. Therefore, Osada fails to disclose or suggest the claimed structure, and independent claims 31 and 32 and their dependent claims are patentably distinct from Osada.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal from the pending rejection.

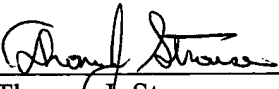
C. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentably distinct from the cited reference. Applicant requests allowance of all the pending claims and advancement of this patent application toward issuance.

Please note that there may be reasons that the pending claims are patentably distinct from the cited reference in addition to those discussed herein. Applicant reserves the right to raise any such arguments in the future. Please contact the undersigned attorney if there are any questions that can be addressed to advance the claims to allowance or otherwise advance the patent application towards issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

4/28/04
Date


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Attached: Drawing Replacement Sheet

